

Message Text

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15
ACTION EA-09

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C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 7942

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, TW
SUBJECT: KMT PERSONNEL CHANGES

REF: (A) TAIPEI 7683, (B) TAIPEI 7721

1. KMT PERSONNEL CHANGES INVOLVING SIX DEPARTMENT CHIEFS OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE WERE ANNOUNCED LAST WEEK IN THE WAKE OF THE 11TH KMT CONGRESS AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS REPORTED REFTELS.
2. MAJOR GENERAL MAO CHI-HSI (3029/2417/1585) REPLACED HSU CHING-LAN (1776/2532/1526) AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MAIN-LAND OPERATIONS. HSU WAS PROMOTED TO DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL.
3. VICE MINISTER OF EDUCATION LIN CHIN-CHIANG (2651/3237/3068) REPLACED CHEN YU-CHING (7115/5940/3237) AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS AFFAIRS. A NEW ASSIGNMENT FOR CHEN HAS NOT BEEN ANNOUNCED. RUMOR HAS IT THAT HE WILL GET AN "HONORARY CORRESPONDENT" TITLE FROM THE CENTRAL DAILY NEWS AND LEAVE FOR THE UNITED STATES TO JOIN HIS FAMILY, MOST OF WHOM RESIDE THERE.

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4. TING MAO-SHIH (0002/2021/2514) REPLACES WU CHUN-TSAI (0702/0193/2088) AS HEAD OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND

INFORMATION. TING REMAINS CONCURRENTLY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE GOVERNMENT INFORMATION OFFICE. WU REPORTEDLY WILL BE SENT TO EL SALVADOR AS AMBASSADOR, REPLACING LIEN CHAN (6647/2069).

5. LIEN CHAN REPLACES WANG WEI-NUNG (3769/0787/6593) AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH ACTIVITIES. WANG BECOMES CHAIRMAN OF THE TAIWAN PROVINCIAL KMT.

6. CHIN HSIAO-YI (4440/1321/0308) REPLACES HSIAO CHI-TSUNG (5618/4949/1350) AS CHAIRMAN OF THE PARTY HISTORY COMMITTEE. HSIAO HAS BECOME A DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

7. LIANG YUNG-CHANG (2733/3057/4545) MOVES FROM CHAIRMAN OF THE TAIWAN PROVINCIAL KMT TO REPLACE TENG CHUAN-KAI (6772/0278/2818) AS CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF EVALUATION AND DISCIPLINE. TENG REMAINS ON THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, THOUGH HIS POOR HEALTH MAY PREVENT HIM PLAYING AN ACTIVE ROLE.

8. COMMENT: THESE CHANGES, WHICH WERE EXPECTED AND EVEN HERALDED IN THE PRESS, GIVE THE PREMIER AND LI HUAN (DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS) EVEN MORE EFFICIENT CONTROL OF THE PARTY APPARATUS. CHANGES IN THE IMPORTANT DEPARTMENTS OF OVERSEAS AFFAIRS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS, YOUTH ACTIVITIES AND PROVINCIAL KMT ARE OF PARTICULAR NOTE. LIN CHING-CHIANG (OVERSEAS AFFAIRS) IS A YOUNG (37) TAIWANESE WITH A GOOD REPUTATION AS ADMINISTRATIVE VICE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, BUT LITTLE INDEPENDENT STANDING IN THE PARTY. WE BELIEVE HE GOT THE JOB THROUGH LI HUAN, AND THAT HE WILL PROVE EFFICIENTLY RESPONSIVE TO HIS MENTOR. HIS REPLACEMENT AS VICE MINISTER HAS NOT YET BEEN ANNOUNCED. LIEN CHAN (YOUTH ACTIVITIES) IS ANOTHER YOUNG (40) TAIWANESE WHO, LIKE LIN, HAS AN ACADEMIC RATHER THAN PARTY BACKGROUND. HE COULD NOT HAVE OBTAINED HIS NEW JOB IN LI HUAN'S YOUTH DOMAIN WITHOUT LI'S COMPLETE SUPPORT. WANG WEI-NUNG'S NEW POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE TAIWAN PROVINCIAL KMT WAS OCCUPIED BY LI HUAN FROM 1968-72. WE BELIEVE IT IS LIKELY THAT LI IS GROOMING WANG TO TAKE OVER AS DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZATIONAL AFFAIRS IN THE EVENT LI BECOMES
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SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE KMT IN ANOTHER FEW YEARS.

9. TING'S CONCURRENT SERVICE IN THE KMT DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE AND INFORMATION AND AS DIRECTOR OF THE GIO WILL MAKE IT MUCH EASIER FOR THE GOVERNMENT/PARTY TO INCREASE CONTROL OF THE PRESS, SHOULD THEY THINK THAT NECESSARY. IT WILL ALSO MAKE IT EASIER TO RATIONALIZE EXISTING CENSORSHIP WHICH HAS OCCASIONALLY AND PUBLICLY BEEN CRITICIZED AS CAPRICIOUS.
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